



## CHILDHOOD LEAD POISONING PREVENTION PROGRAM VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2 SUMMER 2002

### **Vote On A Newsletter Name**

We need your help! The CLPPP staff had a very hard time choosing a name for the newsletter because there were so many GREAT ideas. We narrowed it down to three choices. We need you to vote on the name that you feel creative and appropriate for a childhood lead poisoning newsletter. Look over the names below and let me, Kim Frazee, know by calling 573-526-4911, emailing [frazek@dhss.state.mo.us](mailto:frazek@dhss.state.mo.us), or by faxing to 573-526-6946. Please have all your votes in to me by July 1, 2002, so I can tally them up and give the newsletter a name.

1. News LEAD er
2. Lead Chronicles
3. The Lead Link

Also, a big THANK YOU to those of you who took time to complete the newsletter survey and return it. From those surveys, I got a lot of ideas for future newsletters. But remember, this newsletter is also meant to become a forum in which you can share your educational ideas with others. Please contact me with your activities that have worked, as well as those that haven't.

I will work on getting your ideas and stories into the newsletters.

### **New Lead Wheels**

A new lead "wheel" educational tool is now available from DHSS. This wheel is targeted to homeowners, especially those with young children. Nine potential lead sources are identified and remedies for each are listed. This wheel, designed by DHSS CLPPP, has Leadosaurus on the front. Lead wheels can be

ordered by calling Kim Frazee at 573-526-4911 or by filling out a literature request form and faxing it directly to the DHSS warehouse at 573-751-1574.

### **Wanted: Articles From Parents**

Parents of lead-poisoned children play a vital role in increasing lead awareness in their communities.

Doctors, nurses, and community health workers

are faced with the challenge of educating hard-to-reach parents. Often times, parents are best reached by their peers, other parents. If you work with a parent who has been an advocate or who has realized the importance of preventing childhood lead poisoning, I would like to include a feature article about them in the newsletter. As a parent or guardian of a lead-poisoned child, their stories are compelling and inspiring. Ask them if you can submit an article, which either they, me, or you may write for this newsletter.

Send your articles or information to me, Kim Frazee, and I will publish it in the next issue. Hopefully, you will be able to share these articles with other parents to strengthen the peer-to-peer outreach/education efforts in your community.



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# **Lead Poisoning Prevention Week**

## **The Goals of LPPW**

Each year during October, Lead Poisoning prevention Week (LPPW) is recognized nationally. According to CDC, there are two main goals to LPPW. First, raising awareness about the health issue and the importance of screening at-risk children. Second, to urge people to take precautions to minimize exposure to lead. Lead Poisoning Prevention Week was October 21-27 2001. Several health departments across the state participated in activities related to lead poisoning prevention. Read the following articles to see the specifics of how some of these departments took advantage of this week. Hopefully, you will get ideas for your LPPW 2002 efforts.

## **St. Louis County Creates Poem**

Shirley Scatcherd, Nurse, and Judi Candela, Outreach Coordinator, both of Saint Louis County Health Department, created a variety of lead prevention posters for a display held on October 24, 2001, at the World Trade Center Building in St. Louis. Ms. Scatcherd created eye-catching posters that emphasized the medical aspect of lead poisoning. Ms. Candela designed informative posters that identified the causes of lead poisoning and ways to prevent it.

The rest of the week was just as busy for these ladies as they provided screenings and presentations at daycares, Parents-As-Teacher meetings, and for local city administrators. During the presentations, they spoke about the new Missouri State Statute that mandates testing in "high risk areas".

A poem of "My Friend Fred" was created for their display, as a humorous touch to learning about lead poisoning and prevention. They would like to share the poem with you. The poem may be reproduced to be included with your educational outreach. Thanks for your great ideas.

### My Friend Fred

There once was a boy named Fred  
His house had lots of lead  
His mom didn't know  
Cause it didn't show  
So, nothing else was said.

Then one day at school  
Fred learned something cruel  
A frightful thing it was.  
There is such a thing  
Many industries bring  
That isn't one bit cool.

Fred learned about Lead  
How it can mess with your head  
So he told his mom that night.

Lo and behold,  
She was glad to be told  
Cause Lead is quite a fright!

The next day she called  
So Fred could get tested  
And find out what else to do.

The County came to the rescue  
We knew that they would  
And got rid of the lead  
As fast as they could.

Now Fred is fine  
His house is lead-free  
He's telling the others  
How good it can be.



## **Lead Poisoning Prevention Week Cont.**

### **Shelby County Educates Daycare Providers**

Shelby County Health Department held an educational meeting on October 25, 2001, for area daycare providers. They educated the providers on important lead information including: who is at risk for poisoning, how lead enters a child's body and how to prevent it, how a blood lead test is performed, where lead is found, and the health effects it has on a child. Also stressed was the importance of hand washing, frequent damp cleaning, and proper diets including calcium and iron. They ended the evening with a snack of oatmeal raisin cookies and hot chocolate. The daycare providers were given Leadosaurus bags filled with activity books, stickers, magnets, and information for the children's parents. Thank you Shelby County for educating your daycare providers and keeping our children safe.

### **Marion County Partners With Parents As Teachers**

Marion County is privileged to have concerned educators representing them. This group is called Parents As Teachers. These educators recognize that certain health issues affect a child's learning process and growth and development. From the close one-on-one relationship the educators have with the families, they are able to assess the child's physical home and make referrals to the Marion County Health Department for lead testing and follow-up. The referrals affect the family involved, the landowner, and perhaps, even the real estate agents. This cycle provides an opportunity to educate and share information about lead poisoning. Many people are unaware of lead poisoning and its effects on children. Marion County Health Department continues to reach many families with lead education. Way to go!

### **Jefferson County Makes Halloween Night Safe**

The Jefferson County Health Department has been actively educating their community about lead poisoning and prevention. Besides screening residents and providing educational packets to families, they took on an even more active role Halloween Night. The Health Department, the Sheriff's Department, and Valle Ambulance District, joined together to make Halloween Night safe for children and their families. Representatives from the three agencies handed out educational packets and answered safety questions at a community Halloween Safety Fair. They saw more than 200 children and their parents that night.

*Dennis Diehl, Director of the Health Department, said the event was so successful that all involved hope to do it again next year.*

Jefferson County Health Department, the Sheriff's Department and Valle Ambulance District plan on participating again next year. For more information on upcoming events planned through the Jefferson County Health Department, call the Health Information line at 1-888-640-3113.

## Putting A Face With A Name

Who is Kim Frazee? As the new Health Educator I for the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services' Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, I would like to tell you a little about myself. Prior to accepting this position in November 2001, I received my bachelor's degree in Health Management with an emphasis in Health Promotion from Southeast Missouri State University. I am a Certified Health Education Specialist (CHES) by The National Commission For Health Education Credentialing, Inc. After graduation, I accepted a Health Educator position with SSM Health Care in St. Louis. In that position, I worked out of Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital providing programs at the hospital and area schools for children. My favorite program was the Germbuster Handwashing program. At the time, I was not aware that the handwashing I was teaching these children to do was also a preventative technique for childhood lead poisoning.

In my current position with the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, I am responsible for not only this newsletter, but for also promoting lead poisoning awareness and prevention to the general public, medical professionals, childcare providers, businesses, etc. in Missouri. I am here to assist you in your lead poisoning educational efforts. Please contact me if you have any questions regarding educational materials or activities. I hope you enjoy this newsletter as much as I have enjoyed putting your ideas together for it.



### **Lead Poisoning Vocab To Know:**

1. **Blood Lead Level:** The concentration of lead in a sample of blood. This concentration is usually expressed in micrograms of lead per deciliter ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ ) of blood. According to the CDC, children with BLLs  $\geq 10\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$  are of concern and should be provided with appropriate follow-up care and education.
2. **Lead inspection:** A surface-by-surface investigation of a home or other dwelling to determine the presence of lead-bearing substances and a report or provision of a report which explains the results of such an investigation.

### **IMPORTANT!!!!**

The DHSS Lead Program 800 number (800-575-9267) is no longer in service. A new 800 number for the entire division is now in service. The new number is:

**800-392-0272**

### **Web Sites To Check Out!**

Centers For Disease Control and Prevention  
[www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

Children's Health Environmental Coalition  
[www.checnet.org](http://www.checnet.org)

National Safety Council  
[www.nsc.org](http://www.nsc.org)



